

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to include a reference to prior Application Ser. No. 10/372,343 filed on February 25, 2003, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent No. 6,580,672 issued June 17, 2003 (based on Application Ser. No. 10/078,423 filed on February 21, 2002), which in turn is a divisional of U.S. Patent No. 6,373,802 issued April 16, 2002 (based on Application Ser. No. 09/199,472 filed on November 25, 1998), as required by 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2).

Claims 1-11 have been canceled. New claims 12-18 have been added. The pending application now contains claims 12-18.

Allowance of the application is solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

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